

Saint Raphael the Archangel

The Guide

A monthly newsletter for the school community

Volume 10, Issue 6

January 2022



From the Principal's Desk

Mrs. Julie Hayes

Dear SRA Families,

Sometimes people may think that January can be a dull month after the excitement of the holidays, but not here at SRA. Although January has been a challenging month between the spike in the Covid-19 case upon our return and a difficult loss in our school family, we remain SRA Strong.

Covid-19 Update

Thank you to all of our families who communicated with the school when they experienced Covid-19 within their family. I was able to update those families of the new St. Louis Department of Health Guidelines for Covid-19; however, not all may be aware of the new guidelines as of January 7th, 2022.

St. Raphael the Archangel continues to follow the St. Louis Department of Health Guidelines. Here is the link to the current guidance adopted by the City of St. Louis Department of Health. You will find the guidance on pages 4, 5, 6 most helpful.

<https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/health/communicable-disease/covid-19/guidance/upload/COVID-19-Isolation-Policy-1-12-2022.pdf>

**Please note the DOH guidance indicates the following:

Individuals who cannot wear a mask appropriately must quarantine for ten (10) days. At St. Raphael the Archangel, this will apply to our Preschool children.

Change in Communication with Families Regarding COVID-19

Grade-level communication: As we move forward, we will continue to notify grade levels of COVID-19 positive cases that impact other classmates directly. If there are student COVID-19 positive cases within a household but are isolated to that household, they will not be communicated to the grade level but instead included in whole school totals. We will share school-wide communication at the end of the week.

School-wide communication: School-wide communication will include the number of COVID-19 positive cases in total. It will not include counts of direct contacts. Here is what to expect.

School-wide total of COVID-19 positive cases, the week of

January 1-8: 22 cases

January 9-14: 9 cases

January 15-21: 5 cases

January 22-28: 4 cases

2022-2023 Registration

This year we have contracted with the FACTS organization to assist with the online enrollment process for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year. Plans are to open the 2022-2023 registration for returning students in the near future. Additional registration information will be sent to families in a separate message once the program is open. New families wishing to apply to St. Raphael can access application forms on the St. Raphael the Archangel website at this time.

Scholarship Applications opened online through ttef-stl.org as of January 18th, 2022. Please apply as soon as possible because some of the scholarships are on a first-come-first-serve basis. The Beyond Sunday Scholarship application process ends on February 28th, 2022. Families seeking tuition assistance must first apply to the Today & Tomorrow Education Fund.

Catholic School Week

Catholic Schools Week is next week, January 30-February 4th. You should have received the week's schedule yesterday through Flocknotes, but it is also attached to The Guide and included in the Friday Packets sent home each week. Additional information is also included, which explains this year's service project- "**CSW Penny Wars**" - to support The BackStoppers organization in honor of Ben Polson. Let the competition begin!

The SRA School Board and Marketing Team will host mini-tour opportunities on Sunday for **NEW families** considering St. Raphael for their children. If you know of a family or friends interested in our school, please direct them to our website and sign up for a tour for Sunday. Next year we hope to return to our full Open House program!

Reminder for next week, Friday, February 4th, the school day dismisses at 12:00 PM. We will not offer aftercare on this day. Please make other arrangements for child care for this day.

I apologize for the amount of information included in this message, but life brought many more challenges at a pace faster than time allowed for me to share with you.

Continue to keep Ms. Polson and her family in your prayers and all of our families experiencing a loss in their family. May Christ's healing presence remain close to these families.

On again, thank you to all of our families for your continual support shown to our faculty and staff. We appreciate every kind word and gift of kindness. THANK YOU!

Blessings,
Mrs. Hayes

Catholic School Week
January 30- February 4, 2022



Sunday, January 30 **Mini-Open House**

Usually, we host our fun-filled Open House when our entire SRA Community comes together to showcase our school. However, this year we are unable to host this large event. We did post a sign-up on the website for new families to schedule a tour on this day.

Monday, January 31 **Celebrate our Parents & Families Day**



- **Dress Down: Dress in your Favorite SRA spirit/sportwear**
- Morning gift bag for families at drop-off

Tuesday, February 1 **Celebrate - May the Service Be with You Day**



- **Dress Down: Dress in your favorite Star Wars clothing item or as your favorite Star Wars character**
- Our service project this year will be a "Penny War" competition to collect a donation for **The BackStopper** organization in honor of Ben Polson.
- **Spelling Bee @ 2PM**

Wednesday, February 2 **Celebrate our Teachers**



- **Dress Down: Dress like your Teacher**
- Home and School will host a luncheon for our Teachers
- Thank you to our parents for subbing in our classes during lunch
- Online Teacher Trivia Game @ 2PM

Thursday, February 3 **Celebrate our Students**



- **Dress Down: Dress in your favorite (Appropriate for School) Movie Character**
- AM-- All-School Online Bingo Game
- PM – Classroom Movie with afternoon snack

Friday, February 4 **Noon Dismissal Celebrate our Grandparents**



- **Dress Down: Dress Like Your Grandparent**
- Student will create a special "Coupon Book" for their Grandparents.

Join SRA in Supporting "The BackStoppers, Inc"

In honor of Ben Polson



Even and Odd Grades



Declare a PENNY WAR!

Tuesday, February 1st - Friday, February 11th

Team Even

- Kindergarten
- 2nd Grade
- 4th Grade
- 6th Grade
- 8th Grade

*Grades gain points by adding pennies and bills to the fireman boots.

*Grades lower other grades points by adding silver coins to the firemen helmets.



Team Odd

- Preschool
- 1st Grade
- 3rd Grade
- 5th Grade
- 7th Grade

Pennies & Bills

All pennies and bills
ADD to the GRADES' total!

Silver Coins

All silver coins SUBTRACT from
the GRADES' TOTAL!

PRIZE: 20 MINUTES FREE RECESS!

The Grades with the most points win!

Points			
	ADDING		SUBTRACTING
Pennies	+1 points	Nickles	-5 points
\$1 bill	+100 points	Dimes	-10points
\$5 bill	+500 points	Quarters	-25 points
\$10 bill	+1000 points		
\$20 bill	+2000 points		



Important Calendar Dates and Notes:

1-4 Catholic Schools Week

1-Spelling Bee

4-NOON DISMISSAL PREK-8

8-Home & School

11-NOON DISMISSAL K-8

PD Day for Teachers

Preschool Open-Aftercare until 6pm

14-Valentine Parties 2:00pm

15-7th Grade Confirmation Parent Meeting 6:30pm

21-President's Day-NO SCHOOL K-8

22-School Board Meeting

24-2nd Grade 1st Communion Parent Meeting 6:30pm

Miss Molly: Preschool A

Pre-K A is getting back in the swing of things. After Christmas and some illness we are hard at work. We have been working hard with our letters and numbers all the time. We are working on letter I. They have learned about insects, ice cream, igloos, and snowflakes. All the fun things made with ice!

Hopefully we will return for mass in February. In the meantime we have been learning about our school family and the family with God.

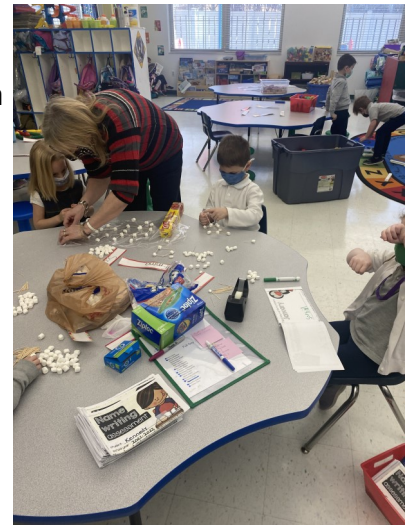
God bless!



Mrs. Tate: Prekindergarten



We have been busy in Pre-K B. We practiced numbers and letters in shaving cream and made boats for our sink and float experiment. We also built using marshmallows and toothpicks and made maracas to go along with the letter M.



Kindergarten News: Mrs. Liz Magee



It has been a busy month in Kindergarten! We have been working on addition and subtraction patterns, sentence structure, and we began our first chapter book, read-aloud with Junie B. Jones. This week we celebrated the 100th day of school with some fun activities! We made shirts with 100 items, counted how many licks it takes to get to the center of a Tootsie Pop, and wrote about how we would spend \$100!

First Grade News: Mrs. Theresa Schmidt



In first grade we are now 101 days smarter! We had so much fun dressing up like Dalmatians to help celebrate the big day. In math we are working on double digit addition and subtraction. We just finished our first week of learning about important American symbols. Our latest writing assignment was to write about what we would do with one hundred dollars. Please come by and read the many different responses hung up outside of our classroom. Happy Catholic Schools week!

Second Grade News: Miss Hayley Franks

Second Grade has been very hard at work this semester! After impressing Miss Franks with our Money skills at "Store", we began learning about time. We have done so many fun activities, like: Centers, board games, and our favorite, SCOOT! In Science we are learning about the Earth's Biomes and Ecosystems, and in Social Studies/Writing we are learning about Autobiographies. There is never a dull day in Second Grade!



We look forward to beginning our Sacramental Preparation for First Eucharist. Please keep us in your prayers as we continue our faith journeys.

Third Grade News: Ms. Susan Polson

The Third Grade has been learning about verbs in English, Multiplication in Math, and preparing for their President's Reports and Timeline for February. This week, Mrs. Hayes was excited to be a guest teacher as the class read the book "The Chalk Box Kid." We had fun learning a new way to enjoy a story and take notes at the same time. Mrs. Smithicki was also excited to be a guest teacher sharing all she knew about timelines. Third Grade, we are looking forward to listening to all the outstanding President Reports in a few weeks!



Miss Patti Woods: English (4 & 5) Religion (4 & 7) Social Studies (4)

Please pray for the following students who will be going head to head in the school-wide Spelling Bee next week, February 1:

8th graders: Maggie K, Adam T, Lauren S, Colleen C, Cillian S, & alternate Conor F.

7th graders: Charlie D, Lucas F, Claire F, Miles M, Maggie A, & alternate Steven I.

6th graders: AJ C, Elizabeth K, Jude P, Ella G, Linus C, & alternate Hazel D.

5th graders: Helen P, James B, Mac T, Christian B, Clara T, & alternate Ava C.

4th graders: Maura K, Madi W, Quinn Z, Adriana K, Caroline F, & alternate Lilly B.

4th and 5th graders have recently completed their unit in English on adjectives and have just begun writing an opinion essay.

4th graders have just finished sharing their timeline projects and will continue learning about the Civil War and slavery.

4th-grade religion classes have continued with the Ten Commandments. We are now beginning the Sixth Commandment.

7th-grade religion classes have continued with preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Please pray for these students who are readying themselves for a serious commitment to the Catholic faith.

Mrs. Amanda Knauer: Religion, Math, Reading, Vocabulary/Spelling (4-5)

Fifth Grade: The fifth graders have been focusing on the Sacraments of Healing. They learned how Jesus can heal us of our sins during Reconciliation and how God can heal people both physically and spiritually during the Anointing of the Sick. During Math, the students have been focusing on multiples, divisibility rules, exponents, and factors all to help prepare for the upcoming chapters on fractions. Book Club has been the topic of discussion during Literature class. The students enjoy making predictions and discussing their books with their group.

Fourth Grade: In Math, the students are becoming experts at dividing numbers with 1-digit divisors. They are also working on finding patterns, multiples, and factors. The students read "The Turtle Who Wanted to Fly." With this story, the students worked on cause and effect. They also read a story about a smart but over-confident fourth grader and her experience with a class assignment. We worked on character traits and making reasonable predictions.

Mr. Leonard Kraudel: Science/STREAM (4-5-6-7-8)

6-7-8 Grade are learning Rocks and Minerals.

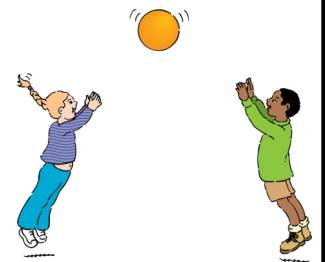
5th grade just finished making a Yellowstone Food Web Poster.

4th grade are learning adaptations of Animals and Plants for survival.



Mr. John McDermott: Physical Education

This January we have been working on throwing and catching games across the grade levels as well as starting soccer. We are practicing dribbling, passing, shooting, and defending through games and drills.



Mrs. Christy Connor: Religion (6 & 8) Social Studies (5-8)

In religion classes, the sixth grade is learning how the Israelites returned to the Promised Land after years of wandering in the desert. The eighth grade is studying how the early Church fathers helped civilization survive after the fall of the Roman Empire.

In social studies, students in grades 5, 7, and 8 are learning about various times in American history. Grades 5 and 7 are looking at the early English colonies and are beginning to study the American Revolution. Students in Grade 6 are just beginning to look at some of the ancient African kingdoms.

Mr. Zach Almeida: Standard Math & Challenge Math (6-7-8) Pre Algebra, (7-8) Algebra (7-8)

Challenge: Students are creating and interpreting different forms of displaying data, and calculating measures of central tendency.

Pre-Algebra: Students are finding probabilities for independent and dependent events.

Algebra 1: Students are applying properties of exponents to simplify expressions.

Algebra 2: Students are solving Quadratic Equations using the Quadratic Formula, and determining the nature of its roots by evaluating the discriminant.

Mrs. Sioux Roslawski: Literature & English (6-7-8)

The 8th, 7th and 6th graders are beginning to read short stories. The authors include O. Henry, Edgar Allen Poe and Shirley Jackson. All three classes are working on informational writing.

The following students have been practicing as they prepare for the Bellarmine Speech Meet, which will be held on January 29: Addison Pfeiffer, Clara Thompson, Helen Potts, James Browning and Claire Fuhr. They have done a fabulous job of memorizing their pieces, and are bringing them to life with facial expressions, movement and voice inflection. What kind of ribbons will they earn? You'll have to read the next issues of the Guide to find out.

Lilly Bick won a silver award in the Scholastic Writing Contest for her poem. Hundreds of pieces were submitted across the entire state, so Lilly's win is something she should be extremely proud of. Congrats, Lilly Bick!

Miss Gretchen Decker: Art

Hi Parents of SRA! My name is Gretchen Decker and I'm the new Art Teacher for the SRA students. I've been an artist ever since I could remember how to make Mickey Mouse, and I decided to learn new and exciting things in the Art World ever since. I'm happy to give a brief look into what the students have worked on during January!

I've been blessed to work with the Pre-K Students by teaching them how to make a big flower and a paper snowman! Kindergarten through Third Grade have learned about Georgia O'Keeffe along with making a Red Canna Flower or their own Oil Pastel Flower. These students are now starting to make their own Magic Tree House! For the Upper Classes, the students got to discover many artists and have their art projects displayed in the Art Classroom! Now, they're learning about different terms in Art that they will apply to their future artwork. Next month, they will learn new art techniques that I'm excited to teach them and see what they can create!